

# SENATE RECORD VOTE ANALYSIS

104th Congress  
1st Session

Vote No. 214

May 25, 1995, 12:13 p.m.  
Page S-7419 Temp. Record

## BUDGET RESOLUTION/Fiscal Dividend for Tax Relief

**SUBJECT:** Senate Concurrent Budget Resolution for fiscal years 1996-2002 . . . S. Con. Res. 13. Domenici (for Grams/Abraham/Lieberman) amendment No. 1182.

### ACTION: AMENDMENT AGREED TO, 54-45

**SYNOPSIS:** As reported, S. Con. Res. 13, the fiscal year 1996 Concurrent Budget Resolution, will reduce projected spending over 7 years to balance the budget by fiscal year (FY) 2002 without increasing taxes. Savings that will accrue from lower debt service payments (an estimated \$170 billion) will be dedicated to a reserve fund, which may be used for tax reductions after enactment of laws to ensure a balanced budget. Highlights include the following: the rate of growth in Medicare will be slowed to 7.1 percent; Medicaid's rate of growth will be slowed to 5 percent and it will be transformed into a block grant program; the Commerce Department and more than 100 other Federal programs, agencies, and commissions will be eliminated; welfare and housing programs will be reformed; agriculture, energy, and transportation subsidies will be cut; foreign aid will be cut; defense spending will be cut and then allowed to increase back to its 1995 level; and Social Security will not be altered.

**The Domenici (for Grams/Abraham/Lieberman) amendment** would provide that the fiscal dividend that will accrue from the enactment of laws to balance the budget (the Congressional Budget Office estimates that the size of the dividend will be \$170 billion) will be used for family tax relief and for incentives to stimulate savings, investment, job creation, and economic growth.

The amendment was offered after all debate time had expired. However, some statements on amendments were added to the record or were made before the amendments were offered and before debate time had expired. Also, by unanimous consent, 1 minute of time was allowed on each amendment for explanatory statements before each vote.

**Those favoring** the amendment contended:

Saving our country from economic collapse by balancing the budget is no easy task. This budget, and any other alternative budget that may balance the budget, will necessarily entail sacrifices from the American people. Once the American people have made those

(See other side)

YEAS (54)			NAYS (45)			NOT VOTING (1)	
Republicans (50 or 93%)	Democrats (4 or 9%)		Republicans (4 or 7%)	Democrats (41 or 91%)		Republicans (0)	Democrats (1)
Abraham	Hutchison	Breaux	Chafee	Akaka	Heflin		Mikulski- <sup>2</sup>
Ashcroft	Inhofe	Inouye	Cohen	Baucus	Hollings		
Bennett	Jeffords	Lieberman	Murkowski	Biden	Johnston		
Bond	Kassebaum	Pell	Snowe	Bingaman	Kennedy		
Brown	Kempthorne			Boxer	Kerrey		
Burns	Kyl			Bradley	Kerry		
Campbell	Lott			Bryan	Kohl		
Coats	Lugar			Bumpers	Lautenberg		
Cochran	Mack			Byrd	Leahy		
Coverdell	McCain			Conrad	Levin		
Craig	McConnell			Daschle	Moseley-Braun		
D'Amato	Nickles			Dodd	Moynihan		
DeWine	Packwood			Dorgan	Murray		
Dole	Pressler			Exon	Nunn		
Domenici	Roth			Feingold	Pryor		
Faircloth	Santorum			Feinstein	Reid		
Frist	Shelby			Ford	Robb		
Gorton	Simpson			Glenn	Rockefeller		
Gramm	Smith			Graham	Sarbanes		
Grams	Specter			Harkin	Simon		
Grassley	Stevens				Wellstone		
Gregg	Thomas						
Hatch	Thompson						
Hatfield	Thurmond						
Helms	Warner						

#### EXPLANATION OF ABSENCE:

1—Official Business  
2—Necessarily Absent  
3—Illness  
4—Other

#### SYMBOLS:

AY—Announced Yea  
AN—Announced Nay  
PY—Paired Yea  
PN—Paired Nay

sacrifices, and have balanced the budget, then they will deserve to be rewarded for their efforts. This resolution before us will generate a huge surplus above and beyond the amount that is needed to balance the budget--we should give that surplus back to the American people in the form of tax relief. The budget resolution, as drafted, will permit this use of the fiscal dividend. The Grams/Abraham/Lieberman amendment would require it.

The tax burden on the American family has grown steadily over the past several decades. The marriage penalty, the erosion of the value of the dependent credit, and the failure to index tax rates to inflation have all greatly contributed to the problem. Relief for American families is overdue. Tax changes to encourage savings and investment are also in order. Politically there may be arguments on the advisability of tax policies that encourage savings and investment, but economically no debate exists. Such policies encourage economic growth and job creation.

Our intention all along was to use the authority in this budget resolution to use the fiscal dividend to provide tax relief. We are pleased that we now have the opportunity to make that use mandatory. We urge our colleagues to join us in voting in favor of this amendment.

**No arguments were expressed in opposition to the amendment.**